



Historical Commission

T-PCHC MINUTES

The Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission (T-PCHC) met in the Mayor and Council Conference Room, City Hall, 1st floor, 255 West Alameda, Tucson, Arizona, at 12:03 p.m. on Wednesday, September 12, 2007.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Members Present:

Teresita Majewski, Chair
Sandee Brooke
Sharon Chadwick
Gerald Juliani
Mark Insley
Bettina Lyons
Sarah Herr

Norma Niblett, Vice Chair
Sybil Needham
Joe Joaquin
Kathy Nabours
Peter Booth
Demion Clinco
Albert Guidero

Members Absent:

Steven Herzog
Annette Campbell
Gal Witmer

Patsy Waterfall
Chauncey Meyer
Renee RedDog

Others Present:

Marty McCune	Historic Preservation Program Manager, City of Tucson Urban Planning and Design
Linda Mayro	Cultural Resources Manager, Pima County Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation Office
Roger Anyon	Staff Member, Pima County Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation Office
Jim Glock	Director, Tucson Department of Transportation
Dave Devine	Tucson Weekly
Dave Brabec	Nogales Historical Commission
Roger Phillips	Recording Secretary, City of Tucson City Clerk's Office

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Nominations were requested from the floor for Vice Chair.

Terry Majewski nominated Norma Niblett. There were no other nominations.

It was moved by Kathy Nabours, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 14 to 0 (Steven Herzog, Patsy Waterfall, Annette Campbell, Chauncey Meyer, Gal Witmer, and Renee RedDog absent) to close nominations for Vice Chair.

By a roll call vote of 13 to 0 (Steven Herzog, Patsy Waterfall, Annette Campbell, Chauncey Meyer, Gal Witmer, and Renee RedDog absent, Norma Niblett abstaining) Norma Niblett was elected as Vice Chair.

Nominations were requested from the floor for Chair.

Norma Niblett nominated Terry Majewski. There were no other nominations.

It was moved by Norma Niblett, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 14 to 0 (Steven Herzog, Patsy Waterfall, Annette Campbell, Chauncey Meyer, Gal Witmer and Renee RedDog absent) to close nominations for Chair.

By a roll call vote of 13 to 0 (Steven Herzog, Patsy Waterfall, Annette Campbell, Chauncey Meyer, Gal Witmer and Renee RedDog absent, Terry Majewski abstaining) Terry Majewski was elected as Chair.

3. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2007

B. Approval of Plans Review Subcommittee Actions from the meetings of:

1. August 9, 2007
2. August 23, 2007

It was moved by Vice Chair Niblett, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 14 to 0 (Steven Herzog, Patsy Waterfall, Annette Campbell, Chauncey Meyer, Gal Witmer, and Renee RedDog absent) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

4. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events

Chair Majewski announced a celebration of the 197th Anniversary of the Independence of Mexico to be held Saturday, September 15, 2007, presented by the Mexican Consulate.

She also announced that the Tucson Presidio Trust would celebrate the 1st Year of the Presidio San Agustín del Tucson with a progressive dinner on Sunday, October 7, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. The cost would be \$80 per person.

5. Removal/Appointments to Committees and to T-PCHC Subcommittees

No appointments or removals were made at this time.

6. Reports from City and County Staff

A. City of Tucson Historic Preservation Program Manager (Marty McCune)

Marty McCune reported:

1. Marist College was placed on the Arizona Preservation Foundation list of most endangered properties.
2. Arizona State Museum had submitted a grant application to the Tohono O'odham Nation for funds to assist with design of the Native American area at the Tucson Origins Heritage Park, which was approved. This would allow additional consultation and permit the design team to do more work. A meeting would be held at the Museum on Monday, September 17, 2007, for additional input to the design.
3. A public meeting regarding Tucson Origins Heritage Park would be held October 24, 2007. The design development phase would be complete by October.
4. Jonathan Mabry attended a meeting in Nogales concerning the next Statewide Preservation Conference to be held in Rio Rico, Arizona, in June 2008.
5. The City was working with Pima County on the Ft. Lowell Master Plan.
6. Consultation and planning was ongoing with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) with regard to the effects of the modern streetcar. The area of potential effect had been designated and after sign off from SHPO a public meeting would be held and a presentation to the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission's Plans Review Subcommittee would be made.

B. Pima County Cultural Resources Manager (Linda Mayro)

1. Roger Anyon reported that work continued on the Joint Courts Project. After 90% of the cemetery area had been surveyed, between 1,120 and 1,125 individuals would be moved. As of September 7, 2007, 572 individuals had been excavated. An amendment to the contract extended the excavations until March 14, 2008, concluding the fieldwork portion of the project. After that, osteological documentation of the human remains as well as funerary objects would take approximately six months followed by an assessment of the cultural affiliation of the individuals. In October 2008, a public notice would be published explaining this activity allowing for a period of six months for public comment. Reburial would occur in April 2009 with a projected total completion of the project by August 2010. By comparison, Mr. Anyon said a similar project that was done in Dallas, Texas, in the early 1990s involved the excavation of 1,157 individuals and took forty months to complete. Whereas, the Joint Courts excavation project involved 1,120 identified individuals with fieldwork scheduled to take fifteen months to complete.

Commissioner Brooke asked what was meant by “identified.”

Mr. Anyon said this meant that the grave shaft stain was visible after the area was stripped back. Other than the 572 that had already been excavated, those that had been identified had not yet been excavated.

Vice Chair Niblett asked if the individuals would be identified.

Mr. Anyon said an 1884 record by the then Post Quartermaster identified the individuals in the first four rows of the cemetery, which comprised the military section of the cemetery. Nearly all of these individuals were previously exhumed and taken to Ft. Lowell then later taken to the Presidio of San Francisco. He said however, since this was not a very thorough job, there were still some human remains in that area. He said that in the civilian part of the cemetery there was no way to identify any of the individuals.

Vice Chair Niblett asked if anyone had come forward saying they believed they had relatives buried in the cemetery.

Mr. Anyon said a couple of people had mentioned they might have relatives there, but nothing formally yet.

Commissioner Guidero asked to whom one would submit the name of a relative suspected to be in the cemetery.

Mr. Anyon said John Madson of the Arizona State Museum was the contact.

Mr. Anyon was asked what part of the cemetery was outside the scope of the project. He said it was believed all of it had been identified with the possible exception of what may be under Stone Avenue. However, the number of shafts that had been identified along with those known to have been removed nearly matched the death register of the Archdiocese and the Tucson census of that time.

Vice Chair Niblett asked if the cemetery had a name.

Mr. Anyon said it was not formally named, rather was referred to as either the Tucson Cemetery or the National Cemetery.

Commissioner Brooke asked what would happen to the unidentified remains.

Mr. Anyon said that the Southern Arizona Veteran's Association had offered to rebury those remains from the military part of the cemetery at the Veteran's Cemetery in Sierra Vista. However, any confirmed lineal descendants would have first priority for reburial. Those unidentified remains within the civilian part of the cemetery would be reburied at All Faiths Cemetery, unless there was a tribal identification of any of the remains.

2. Linda Mayro reported the next meeting concerning the Ft. Lowell Master Plan would be held at the San Pedro Chapel at 5:00 p.m. on September 19, 2007. Clean up in the area was ongoing as well as stabilization of the buildings. A construction phase had begun on the chapel.
3. Ms. Mayro said a pre-bid meeting was held for the next phase of construction at Canoa Ranch. New bonds would be sought in 2008 to implement the master plan that had been approved by the Pima County Board of Supervisors.
4. Ms. Mayro said a pre-bid meeting was to be held for the Lower Empirita Ranch.
5. Ms. Mayro said Pima County was working with the Town of Oro Valley on the Steam Pump Ranch Master Plan.
6. Ms. Mayro said Pima County was working with the Dunbar School Coalition on the construction documents for the oldest part of the school.
7. Ms. Mayro said the Conservation Acquisition Commission had met to discuss open space and historic preservation projects for bond consideration before being sent on to the Citizens Bond Advisory Committee. She distributed copies of the memo regarding the proposed 2008 Pima County Historic Preservation Bond Projects.

Commissioner Juliani asked about Tumamoc Hill.

Ms. Mayro said that this was State land and although it had been reclassified for preservation purposes under the Arizona Preserve Initiative, it was found that this was not constitutionally valid. Therefore, it would now go up for open bid and could potentially be bought by commercial interests. She said it would take a constitutional amendment to reallocate funds for the purchase of the land.

- C. Tucson Department of Transportation Director (Jim Glock)
This Item was taken out of order after Item 8.

7. T-PCHC Subcommittee/Other Committee and Task Force Status Reports

A. T-PCHC Ordinance Revision Subcommittee (Sharon Chadwick)

Commissioner Chadwick said the ordinance revisions were discussed at the Plans Review Subcommittee meeting.

B. T-PCHC Plans Review Subcommittee (Terry Majewski)

No report was given.

C. T-PCHC Rules and Regulations Subcommittee (Sandee Brooke)

No report was given.

D. T-PCHC Transportation Subcommittee (Sharon Chadwick)

No report was given.

E. Downtown Links Citizens Advisory Committee (Gerald Juliani)

No report was given.

F. Downtown Neighborhoods Advisory Committee (Terry Majewski)

No report was given.

G. T-PCHC Birthday Celebration Subcommittee (Kathy Nabours)

Commissioner Nabours thanked everyone for their help in making this the best event ever. Mr. Phillips said there was a video of the celebration uploaded to YouTube. Commissioner Chadwick said it would also eventually be on Access Tucson. Commissioner Needham said she had received very positive feedback from members of the Oro Valley Historic Commission. Vice Chair Niblett said she had received many thanks from participants and attendees from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

8. Status Report on 4th Avenue Underpass (Jim Glock and Marty McCune)

Ms. McCune said the final documentation report for the demolition was submitted to SHPO on August 31, 2007. A copy of the report was circulated to commission members. EcoPlan Associates in conjunction with Jerry Cannon who was the engineer on the project had prepared the report. She said that the Tucson Department of Transportation had the original plans and many photos of the underpass, and these were included in the report.

Chair Majewski asked if the report would go to State Archives.

Ms. McCune said the disposition is to the Department of Library and Archives. She also said there had been some significant re-designs to the plan since it was last presented.

Commissioner Juliani and others expressed concern that the Commission was being excluded from the plans reviews and updates.

Ms. McCune said she would pass along those concerns to the Department of Transportation.

It was moved by Commissioner Brooke, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 12 to 2 for the Chair to write a letter to the Tucson Department of Transportation expressing the Commission's displeasure with the process used with regard to the Fourth Avenue Underpass Project.

Jim Glock said the processes that had been used were not the standard that the Department of Transportation uses. He recounted what had occurred so far and apologized for not getting back to the Commission on some of the plans changes. He said the new design from the contractor would be put up on the DesignBuild Collaborative web site.

Chair Majewski asked that Mr. Glock attend the Plans Review Subcommittee meeting in two weeks to give a presentation on the progress of the project.

6. Reports from City and County Staff

C. Tucson Department of Transportation Director (Jim Glock)

This Item was taken out of order.

Jim Glock reported:

1. An acceptable bid had been received for the repaving of South Stone Avenue from Broadway to 19th Street, which includes a new signal system at Five Points. The lighting from 19th Street to 18th Street would continue with the historic-looking black and silver poles that were currently being used south of 18th Street. These streets would eventually be converted back to two-way.
2. It was a long-term goal to convert 6th Avenue and Stone Avenue to two-way lanes from Drachman Avenue south to Broadway Boulevard. This project would need to wait until the completion of the Downtown Links Project.
3. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) wanted to sell the warehouse assets along Toole Avenue between 6th Avenue and Stone Avenue that were not impacted by the Downtown Links Project. On September 4, 2007, the Mayor and Council approved the purchase of Zee's Warehouse and the direct sell to the current tenant. This sale

included conditions that the historic integrity be maintained based on the Department of the Interior's guidelines as well as maintaining the arts related business in the building. The purchase of the Steinfeld Warehouse was on hold. He said the Arts District Master Plan was the controlling document for the purchase of those ADOT properties.

9. Letter of support for determination of National Register eligibility for Ranch House Lodge (Demion Clinco)

Commissioner Clinco said he was completing an inventory of the properties at the Ranch House Lodge for submission to SHPO to determine National Register eligibility. He said he and Ms. Mayro had recently toured the facilities and that it had retained the majority of its integrity apart from the addition of a few buildings from the 1960s and 1970s. He requested a letter of support from the Commission.

It was moved by Commissioner Juliani, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 14 to 0 for the Chair to write a letter of support for the efforts to determine National Register eligibility of the Ranch House Lodge.

10. Tucson Preservation Foundation Update (Sharon Chadwick)

Commissioner Chadwick reported that she and Commissioner Brooke had reviewed and cataloged the documents they had to make them easier to use by others. She said the new signature cards had been returned to the bank. Commissioner Clinco said they had planned two orientation seminars on the first and third Saturdays of October for those who were interested in participating as board members.

Commissioner Nabours asked what the Foundation did.

Commissioner Chadwick said it was hoped that it would become a support group to the Tucson-Pima County Historic Commission and be able to do things that the Commission was unable to do at State and Federal levels. Commissioner Brooke added it was hoped that as a nonprofit organization it would become a place for people interested in supporting preservation efforts to make tax-deductible donations.

11. Commissioners' Summary of Current Events

Vice Chair Niblett said Alban Tyler, who had formally worked on the Steam Pump Ranch committee had gone into business as a grants writer. She also said that the latest publication of the Tucson Corral of the Westerners, La Poste Combada, was available.

Commissioner Chadwick said Old Pueblo Trolley and the Transportation Museum would be holding an auction on October 6, 2007.

Chair Majewski said the yearly Roundup at Empire Ranch fundraiser would be held at the end of October.

Commissioner Herr asked about the opening of the Julian Wash Cultural Park, and Ms. McCune said it was tentatively planned for October 13, 2007.

12. Call to the Audience

Dave Brabec, the Chair of the Nogales Cultural Heritage Commission introduced himself.

13. Future Agenda Items

Chair Majewski mentioned the Burnswell-Hopkins update on the Tucson Origins Heritage Park and ideas for the upcoming Statewide Preservation Conference.

14. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.